

REMARKS

Introduction

A three-month extension of time to respond to the April 27, 2006 Office Action is hereby respectfully requested. The Director is hereby authorized to charge \$510.00 in payment of the three-month extension of time fee, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 in connection with the paper(s) transmitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (order no. 099999.0099). A duplicate copy of this Reply is transmitted herewith.

Claims 1-102, 109-116, 121-137, 148-182, and 194-215 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 103-105, 107, 108, 119, and 183 have been amended. Claims 106, 117, 118, 120, 138-147, 184-193, and 216-226 are also currently pending in this case. No new subject matter has been added by the amendments to the claims.

Claims 103-108 and 119 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fueki et al. U.S. Patent 5,144,142 (hereinafter "Fueki").

Claim 108 and 183 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fueki.

Claims 117, 118, 120, 138-147, 184-193, and 216-226 have been allowed.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application in light of the following remarks is hereby respectfully requested.

The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 103-108 and 119 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fueki. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As applicant has pointed out above, independent claim 117 has been allowed. Applicant has amended claims 103-105, 107, 108, and 119 to depend from independent claim 117. For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 117, and any other claims which depend from claim 117, including claims 103-108 and 119, are patentable over Fueki. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 103-108 and 119 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

The Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 108 and 183 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fueki. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As applicant has pointed out above, independent claim 117 has been allowed. Applicant has amended claims 108 and 183 to depend from independent claim 117. For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 117, and any other claims which depend from claim 117, including claims 108 and 183, are patentable over Fueki. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 108 and 183 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that claims 103-108, 117-120, 138-147, 183-193, and 216-226 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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